

Practice Equipment

It is essential that practices have the necessary equipment to provide comprehensive primary care and resuscitation. It is also essential that practices have timely access to a spirometer and electrocardiograph, if they do not already keep one at the practice.

RACGP 4th Edition Standards

5.2.1 *Our practice has access to the medical equipment necessary for comprehensive primary care including emergency resuscitation.*

Assessment methods

- Interviews with GPs and practice staff

GPs will be able to explain, during an interview, the procedures commonly performed at the practice, and demonstrate that available equipment is sufficient for those procedures. Staff will also describe how they are able to access a spirometer and electrocardiograph, if not already kept on site.

- Direct observation of practice equipment

Surveyors will directly observe that all essential equipment is available at the practice.

Surveyors will also review (if not returned to GPA office for assessment) the practice's Equipment Maintenance Schedule - 5.2.1D.

Meeting the standards

The practice will have equipment for comprehensive primary care and resuscitation including:

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| * ausroscope | * blood glucose monitoring system |
| * disposable syringes and needles | * equipment for resuscitation |
| * equipment for maintaining an airway | * equipment to assist ventilation |
| * IV access | * emergency medicines |
| * examination light | * eye examination equipment |
| * gloves | * height measurement device |
| * measuring tape | * monofilament for sensation testing |
| * torch | * ophthalmoscope |
| * oxygen | * patella hammer |
| * peak flow meter or spirometer | * scales |
| * spacer for inhaler | * specimen collection equipment |
| * sphygmomanometer | * stethoscope |
| * surgical masks | * thermometer |
| * tourniquet | * urine testing strips |
| * vaginal speculae | * visual acuity charts |
| * x-ray viewing facilities | |

If an electrocardiograph and spirometer are not kept on site practices should determine what they believe to be reasonable timely access, record this and ensure all staff understand this determination and how access is achieved.

A maintenance schedule shall be recorded and monitored for all the practice key equipment. Equipment that requires calibration or that is electric or battery powered e.g. autoclaves, vaccine fridges, scales etc need to be serviced regularly to ensure they continue to be in good working order. It is an important risk management policy to constantly check equipment and ensure that it is ready for use and in working order when it is required. The maintenance schedule will include the spirometer and electrocardiograph, if the practice keeps these on site.

Best practice:

- Available equipment is sufficient for all practice needs.
- All equipment is regularly maintained and recorded as such.